

## **MEMORANDUM**

July 11, 2011

TO: Valerie Ervin, President  
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Isiah Leggett, County Executive

SUBJECT: Proposed Legislation Establishing a Curfew for Minors

I am transmitting for Council introduction an expedited bill that creates a curfew for youth under the age of 18 years, as well as a Legislative Request Report for the bill. This bill is similar to curfew laws that already exist in Prince George's County and the District of Columbia.

This bill is intended to address issues relating to increased gang activity, violence, and crime involving minors in the County. It imposes a curfew from Midnight to 5:00 am on Saturday and Sunday and from 11:00 pm to 5:00 am on the remaining days of the week.

Youth under the age of 18 are particularly susceptible, because of their lack of maturity and experience, to participate in unlawful and gang-related activities and to be the victim of older perpetrators of crime. Enactment of this bill will protect the welfare of minors by: (1) reducing the likelihood that minors will be the victims of criminal acts during curfew hours; (2) reducing the likelihood that minors will become involved in criminal acts or exposed to criminal acts during curfew hours; and (3) aid parents in carrying out their responsibility to exercise reasonable supervision of minors entrusted to their care. The bill will also protect the general public from juvenile related criminal activity.

I would greatly appreciate Council's expedited review of this bill. If you have any questions about the bill, please contact Assistant Chief Administrative Officer Kathleen Boucher at 240-777-2593 or [Kathleen.boucher@montgmoerycountymd.gov](mailto:Kathleen.boucher@montgmoerycountymd.gov).

Attachment